

**JEH O & C # 38**

Date: 2/16/75

Aides Initial: WRS

Caption on Folder or File: (Print)

[ Behten, Charles ]

Cabinet 6 Drawer 1

Folder X File \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

First Communication Dated 4/16/53

Last Communication Dated 9/23/59

Approximate Pages 37

Derogatory Information: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

Describe Category; i.e. investigative, congressional, prominent persons, administrative, information, policy, personnel, information from other agency, (use miscellaneous category as little as possible): Investigative

Ticklers Only \_\_\_\_\_ Originals Only \_\_\_\_\_ Both X

Describe General Content of File or Folder: (use separate page if necessary)

Summary of investigation of Behten requested by State Department in connection with Thompson at U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union investigation revealed Behten was closely associated with self-admitted or known homosexuals who were either personal friends or co-workers. This data furnished to State Department, Sherman Adams at the White House, and Attorney General.

Memo to Mr. Belmont 9-23-59  
CHARLES E. BOHLEN aka "CHIP" BOHLEN

Bufiles fail to reveal information furnished by Berlin was disseminated, but Berlin had indicated he would furnish this information to General Persons at the White House. (77-56416-99, 119, 121)

Recent articles in the press revealed Bohlen Ambassador to Soviet Union 1953 to 1957, has since served as Ambassador to Philippines. Bohlen has been recalled from Manila to assume post as Special Assistant to Secretary of State for Soviet affairs.

ACTION:

None. For the Director's information.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: September 23, 1959

FROM : MR. G. H. SCATTERDAY

SUBJECT: CHARLES E. BOHLEN  
ALSO KNOWN AS "CHIP" BOHLEN

DeLoach  
McGuire  
W.C. Sullivan

Tolson  
Boardman  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Nease  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

The following is submitted pursuant to the Director's request 9-22-59 for a summary on "Chip" Bohlen of the State Department.

The attached memoranda summarize information contained in Bufiles concerning Bohlen; memorandum dated 3-16-53 sets forth results of an applicant-type investigation concerning Bohlen at the request of the Secretary of State; and the memorandum dated 7-14-59 prepared for the Director contains additional information in Bufiles subsequent to the applicant-type investigation.

The following is a summary of information contained in the attached memoranda. Bohlen, born 8-30-04, Clayton, New York, graduate of Harvard University; employed as foreign service officer, Department of State since 1929, and has served in posts abroad, including Tokyo, Paris and the Soviet Union. Applicant-type investigation revealed several former coemployees and friends of Bohlen described as homosexuals, including Carmel Offie, and Bohlen's brother-in-law Charles W. Thayer. Former State Department employee described Bohlen's speech indicated effeminacy. Former U. S. Ambassador to Soviet Union, William Bullitt, described Bohlen's conduct in Moscow as intolerable, that he drank excessively and Bullitt had him recalled. Several persons would not recommend Bohlen, whom they described as opportunist and apologist for Soviet Union, Yalta and appeasement policy. Two individuals advised they knew of rumors Bohlen was homosexual. Other numerous prominent individuals interviewed furnished favorable information regarding Bohlen. Bufiles also reveal that on 10-31-56 Dick Berlin advised the Director that Bohlen allegedly told Eric Johnson and George Weltner, Paramount Studios, that President Eisenhower's letter to Bulganin accusing Soviets of meddling in American politics was "unwise, untimely and dangerous. It was like lighting a match to a fuse. Our attitude towards Russia is unrealistic. Communism is here to stay. We should realize and accept it. Any hope to the contrary is wishful thinking. Russia's armored strength is strong. They have everything in the way of armament."

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. G. H. Menzel

Enclosures

GHM:dm (4)

\* disseminated also to AG &  
Sherman Adams.

### Adviser

During and after World War II, he was called upon by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman to serve as their interpreter and adviser at all major conferences with the Russians. He estimated recently he had spent over 4000 hours in negotiations with Soviet leaders.

The opposition to his nomination as ambassador

in 1953—and more recently over his recall from Manila—stemmed chiefly from his role as interpreter for FDR at the Yalta conference.

The GOP in 1953 was trying to discredit Yalta on grounds that Eastern Europe had been "given away" to the Soviet in this agreement.

Mr. Bohlen, with characteristic bluntness, said the only thing wrong with the Yalta agreement was that the Russians broke it.

Sens. McCarthy, Styles Bridges (N. H.), Everett Dirksen (Ill.) and others challenged Mr. Bohlen's appointment and raised questions about his security clearance.

But the Senate confirmed him by a 74 to 13 vote after the late Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.) and Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.) inspected his FBI file and gave him a clean bill of health.



MR. BOHLEN

*Set me have a summary of our files on Bohlen.*

*[Hoover] Mr. Belmont adv. [advised] 2-27 912-154 BS*

### He Brings Back Controversial Figure

# Bohlen Is Regarded as Top Expert on the Soviet Union

(See editorial on Page 22.)  
By JACK STEELE  
Script-Howard Staff Writer

Charles E. (Chip) Bohlen, who knows how to get along with the Russians without giving in to them, is coming back to Washington to advise the Eisenhower Administration on expanding East-West relations.

Mr. Bohlen—widely regarded as the top U. S. expert on the Soviet Union—has been in what amounted for him to diplomatic exile as ambassador to the Philippines for the last two and a half years.

His recall to take over the newly created post of special assistant to Secretary of State Christian Herter for Soviet Affairs was announced yesterday.

But Mr. Bohlen, who also has the personal confidence of President Eisenhower, will serve the White House as well as the State Department in his new job. He is expected to accompany Ike on his visit to Russia in November.

### Sign

Mr. Bohlen's recall is another sign of the fading policies of the late John Foster Dulles, who never really believed it was possible to do business with the Kremlin.

Mr. Dulles approved Mr. Bohlen's appointment as Ambassador to Russia in 1953 despite hostile Republicans in the Senate led by the late Joseph R. McCarthy who tried to block his confirmation.

But Mr. Dulles never quite saw eye to eye with Mr. Bohlen, who believed in being tough with the Russians but in trying to get along with them. Mr. Dulles engineered his transfer to Manila in 1957.

Despite his blunt and studied toughness with the Soviet leaders, Mr. Bohlen left Moscow in 1957 with warm praise from Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Mr. K., his arm draped around Mr. Bohlen's shoulder, told him: "We like a competent ambassador if he comes to correct conclusions and sends the right estimate to his Government. We have new hope for something concrete that will help establish good relations."

Altho Khrushchev added that he could not understand "why they are taking you away from us," he had no reason to believe it was because Mr. Bohlen was "soft" toward the Soviet.

### Toast

A year earlier, at a diplomatic reception, Mr. K. proposed a toast to "the liquidation of NATO bases." Mr. Bohlen rejected the toast and told him bluntly: "You must recognize NATO as a fact of life. It exists."

When he first went to Moscow as ambassador soon after the death of Stalin in 1953, Mr. Bohlen startled the Soviet hierarchy by proposing a toast to "justice."

The Kremlin was under fire at the time for not bringing deposed secret police chief Lavrenti Beria to trial. Marshal Georgia Zhukov joined in the toast—and Beria was soon tried and shot.

Mr. Bohlen also led the parade of NATO ambassadors who walked out of another Moscow reception in 1956 after Khrushchev made his famous boast to "bury" Western democracies—or, as he says now, capitalism.

Mr. Bohlen, at 55, has spent most of his 30 years in the foreign service as a student of Russia. In 1929 he was one of a small group of new recruits assigned to study the Russian language and five years later, when the U. S. first recognized Red Russia, was among those sent to reopen the Embassy.

The Washington Post and Times Herald  
The Washington Daily News 24  
The Evening Star  
New York Herald Tribune  
New York Journal-American  
New York Mirror  
New York Daily News  
New York Post  
The New York Times  
The Worker  
The New Leader  
The Wall Street Journal  
Date

SEP 22 1959

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: July 14, 1959

FROM : MR. G. H. SCATTERDAY *GHS*

SUBJECT: CHARLES BOHLEN

The following is being submitted pursuant to the Director's request 7-13-59 for a summary on Charles Bohlen of the State Department.

Bohlen, born 8-30-04, Clayton, New York, graduate of Harvard University; employed as career foreign service officer, Department of State, since 1929, and has served in posts abroad, including Tokyo, Paris and the Soviet Union.

Following is a summary of information contained in attached memoranda. Bohlen was subject of applicant-type investigation 1953 at request of Secretary of State. Several former coemployees and friends of Bohlen described as homosexuals, including Carmel Offie, and Bohlen's brother-in-law Charles W. Thayer. Former State Department employee described Bohlen's speech indicated effeminacy. Former U.S. Ambassador to Soviet Union, William Bullitt, described Bohlen's conduct in Moscow as intolerable, that he drank excessively and Bullitt had him recalled. Several persons would not recommend Bohlen, whom they described as opportunist and apologist for Soviet Union, Yalta and appeasement policy. Two individuals advised they knew of rumors Bohlen was homosexual. Other numerous prominent individuals interviewed furnished favorable information regarding Bohlen. (77-56416-99, 101)

In addition to foregoing, Bufiles reveal that on 10-31-56 Dick Berlin advised the Director that Bohlen allegedly told Eric Johnson and George Weltner, Paramount Studios, that President Eisenhower's letter to Bulganin accusing Soviets of meddling in American politics was "unwise, untimely and dangerous. It was like lighting a match to a fuse. Our attitude towards Russia is unrealistic. Communism is here to stay. We should realize and accept it. Any hope to the contrary is wishful thinking. Russia's armored strength is strong. They have everything in the way of armament." (77-56416-119)

Bohlen served as U.S. Ambassador to Russia from 1953 until 1957 and since that time he has served as Ambassador to the Philippines. (Who's Who, 1958-59)

ACTION: None. For the Director's information.

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Menzel

GHS:fjb  
62 JUL 24 1959

*Did not discuss this*  
*NAME*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: March 16, 1954

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCES REGARDING CHARLES E. BOHLEN, AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA

I have reviewed the files and am setting out in sequence pertinent data reflecting any personal contact the Director had with Administration officials leading up to the confirmation of Chip Bohlen.

The following are the pertinent items:

1. The Director, by memorandum dated March 17, 1953, to the Attorney General, reported that that afternoon Secretary of State Dulles informed the Director that the President had asked him to talk to the Director regarding our report on Bohlen. The Director saw the Secretary of State in his office. Present was Allen Dulles. The President wanted the expression of the Director's views on Bohlen.

The Director made it clear that the FBI did not as a usual procedure evaluate any of its reports, but in view of the President's request, the Director would not be inclined, if he were passing on the question of security, to give Bohlen a complete clearance. The Director pointed out that there was no direct evidence that Bohlen had engaged in homosexual activities, but it was a fact that several of his closest friends and intimate associates were known homosexuals. Allen Dulles suggested the lie detector. The Director pointed out that he did not attach very much credence to this.

The Director made it clear that Secretary Dulles was not to furnish the opinion expressed by the Director when he appeared on the following day before the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs. (77-56416-102)

2. By memorandum dated March 24, 1953, addressed to Messrs. Tolson, Ladd and Nichols, the Director advised that on Saturday, March 21, at the Attorney General's request, he had attended a conference in the Attorney General's office with Senator Knowland. Knowland was desirous of ascertaining whether access could be given to one or two members of the Senate Committee to review the FBI report on this matter as this would dissipate the opposition to Bohlen.

LBN:arm

*Investigation by B. F. Reynolds  
+ See Bufile 77-56416-119  
+ See Bufile 77-56416-120*

The Director then referred to the conference with Knowland; that while an examination of the reports might be helpful in this particular case, the Director expressed the opinion that the opposition would not accept the results of the examination of the reports, but would more than likely also insist on seeing the reports. The Director then discussed the danger of a precedent<sup>being</sup> involved. (77-56416-11)

4; The Director, by memorandum dated March 24, 1953, to the above-mentioned Bureau officials, reported a telephone call from Secretary of State Dulles at 2:22 p.m. Dulles stated that he had Senators Taft and Sparkman in his office then looking at the FBI reports on Bohlen. The Senators would like to see the raw files. The Director told the Secretary that the "raw report" had never been made available to anyone. Dulles inquired whether such raw files had ever been made available in other cases and the Director stated they had not. Dulles then referred to Senator McCarran's claim that such raw reports were made available to him. The Director referred to the Department policy of furnishing summaries to the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and in response to the Secretary of State's inquiry, the Director stated these summaries are similar to the summary presented in the Bohlen case.

Senator Taft then came on the phone and advised that Director that since the issue arose, every newspaper reporter had been asking him whether he had seen the file. The Senator stated he felt he would be much more effective if he could say he had seen the file. The Senator further stated that Senator Lodge and Senator Tydings saw the files in the original McCarthy investigation at the White House. The Director said all he knew was from hearsay; that he had been told by the Department that they did not make available to the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee the raw files but they did make available the summaries. Taft then stated he thought that Senator Hickenlooper had seen raw files of the Atomic Energy Commission. The Director then pointed out that this was by a special Act of Congress. The Director then observed that the matter of making the raw files available was a decision that only the Attorney General could make. The Director stated that if the Attorney General agreed to this, he would be guided by what the Attorney General decided. The Director told Taft that a full field investigation had been made on Bohlen and Taft stated he would look at the summaries of the investigation and then he might see the Attorney General. The Director assured Taft that the Bohlen summary was a complete summary. (77-56416-13)

The Director set forth the Bureau policy that FBI reports are not made available to Senators, Congressmen, or Committees of Congress. The Attorney General sustained his view.

Knowland then inquired whether a Committee consisting of Vice President Nixon and maybe a Cabinet officer or two could examine the FBI report. The Director made it clear this was a matter of policy and would be one for the Attorney General to pass on. The Attorney General was not enthusiastic.

The Director then advanced the suggestion that the best way to resolve the Bohlen situation was to have Security Officer Scott McLeod before the Foreign Affairs Committee and in that way the Committee could ascertain whether it had received a complete presentation of this report from Dulles. Knowland was not enthusiastic on this suggestion fearing it might reflect upon the Secretary of State.

The conference adjourned with the Attorney General and the Director holding to the position that the FBI report on Bohlen should not be made available to any Committee or individual members of the Senate. (77-56416-15)

3. The Director by memorandum dated March 24, addressed to the above-mentioned Bureau officials, reported a call from William Rogers at 11:41 a.m. to inquire if the Director had heard that the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee had designated Senators Taft and Sparkman to look at the FBI report on Bohlen. The Director stated he had not heard this; that all he knew was that he had heard on the radio that morning that this was being contemplated.

Rogers pointed out that he had just received a call from Cadison in the Department's Public Information Office concerning this. The Director and Rogers agreed that a no comment position was to be maintained.

The Director stated that he had talked with the Attorney General yesterday (which would be on March 23); that the Attorney General had indicated his views, which the Director shared, but of course he did not know whether anything had developed since then. Rogers commented that he thought to refuse these reports to Senators Taft and Sparkman would put the Department in a bad light in view of the stature of the Senators. The Director observed that the thing to be concerned with was whether this would be a precedent.

5. The Director, by memorandum dated March 24, reported a call from the Attorney General at 6:38 p.m., stating that he had received a call from Senator Taft, who made a final plea to see the raw files on the Bohlen investigation. The Attorney General turned Taft down, which did not make Taft happy. The Director told the Attorney General he thought the Attorney General was right: (77-56416-29)

The Director then briefed the Attorney General regarding his conversation with Secretary of State Dulles and Senator Taft earlier in the day.

6. The Director, by memorandum dated March 24, reported attending the Attorney General's Staff luncheon on that date. The Director stated that the Attorney General reported that he had lost out on our position in the Bohlen report; that he regretted the outcome and that the report would be made available by the State Department to Senators Taft and Sparkman.

#### CONCLUSION

The Director did confer with Senator Knowland and the Attorney General wherein the question of exhibiting reports to a select group was discussed. The Director maintained his traditional position on this and did not grant a concurrence. Technically, since the Attorney General stated at lunch on March 24 that he had lost out on his position, the Director did have advance knowledge that the reports were to be shown to Senators Taft and Sparkman, although the Director did not at any time indicate a concurrence in the action of the Administration in exhibiting the Bohlen summary to Taft and Sparkman. Accordingly, I have revised the letter to Fulbright deleting the reference "without my knowledge" referring to the exhibition of the report to Taft and Sparkman.

*Letter not sent 3/22 ✓*  
*I think we should wait on letter to Sen. Fulbright until we hear from Rogers*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd

DATE: March 16, 1953

FROM : Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: CHARLES EUSTIS BOHLEN  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

#### SYNOPSIS:

Request to investigate Bohlen received from Secretary of State on February 18, 1953. Following derogatory information developed and included in summary memorandum: Carmel Offie Stiviss he met Bohlen in 1934 and has been a close associate of his through the years. Offie reportedly a homosexual and was arrested on 9/8/43, and charged with disorderly conduct - perversion. [redacted] an admitted homosexual, gave Bohlen a reference in a Government application. [redacted] a reported homosexual who admitted a lifetime association with homosexuals, advised is his closest American friend in the United States. [redacted] admitted frequently staying in Bohlen's home at Washington, D. C., in 1944-45 and 1947-49, and in Paris in 1950. [redacted] former State Department employee said manner of speech of appointee indicated effeminacy. Bohlen married to sister of Charles W. Thayer. Thayer has admitted one homosexual act. Thayer and Bohlen are very good friends and shared a room together while in Moscow, Russia, in 1937. William Bullitt, former Ambassador to Russia, said he took Bohlen with him to work in Embassy in Moscow. He described Bohlen's conduct as intolerable, and as Bohlen drank excessively he had him recalled. He has utmost contempt for Bohlen. Several individuals do not recommend Bohlen as he is more interested in his career than his country, is an opportunist, and is an apologist for the Soviet Union, Yalta, and the appeasement policy. Information furnished by [redacted] that area of mistrust exists in the Department of State regarding Bohlen. Not included in summary memorandum is information furnished by Drew Pearson that Bohlen is a homosexual as Pearson denies this on interview. Two persons aware of rumors that Bohlen is a homosexual. Number of prominent individuals interviewed and they furnished favorable information regarding Bohlen. Recommend attached summary be furnished to Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and Sherman Adams.

Attachment put  
AJS:eam

RECORDED - 44

ENCLOSURE

25 JUN 1 1953

REC-95

177-56416-99  
13 APR 8 1953

Memorandum to Mr. Ladd

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According to [redacted] former employee of the Department of State, admitted a lifetime association with a great number of homosexuals, [redacted] is reportedly a homosexual. [redacted] was interviewed by the Bureau's representative described Bohlen as his closest American friend in the United States. He admits staying at Bohlen's home in Washington, D. C., overnight frequently in 1944-45, and in 1947-49, and also staying in Bohlen's home in Paris, on several occasions in 1950.

Bohlen is married to the sister of Charles W. Thayer.

William C. Bullitt, former Ambassador to Russia, advised that Charles Thayer and appointee were in the Embassy at Moscow during the same period. Bullitt said they were good friends.

The November 9, 1947, issue of the Sunday Star, Washington, D. C., reflects that while Bohlen was Second Secretary in Moscow in 1937 he shared a room with Charles W. Thayer.

A confidential informant [redacted] formerly employed by the Department of State, advised appointee's manner of speech indicated effeminacy and she is of definite belief he has strong homosexual tendencies.

William C. Bullitt, former Ambassador to Russia, advised he took Bohlen to Moscow to work with him in the Embassy. Bohlen was in the Embassy from one to two years and his conduct became intolerable. During this period Bohlen was drinking excessively and Bullitt personally asked for his recall. Bullitt has the utmost contempt for Bohlen and refers to him as a cheap profiteer on American disaster.

J. Lovestone, self-acknowledged leader of the Communist Party advised he discussed the Alver Hiss trial with Bohlen after the completion of the first trial and Bohlen replied he was not impressed with the facts as brought out in the first trial and he would await the verdict of the second trial before considering Hiss guilty. Lovestone questioned Bohlen's judgment in defending the Yalta Agreement.

- 3 -

Memorandum to Mr. Ladd

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached summary memorandum be furnished to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and Sherman Adams.

DETAILS:

By letter of February 18, 1953, John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State, requested the Bureau to conduct an investigation of Bohlen as the President desires to nominate him as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

FOLLOWING DEROGATORY INFORMATION DEVELOPED AND INCLUDED IN THE SUMMARY MEMORANDUM:

Carmel Offie, Washington representative, Free Trade Union Counsel, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C., advised he met Bohlen in 1934 at the United States Embassy in Moscow, Russia, and has been a close associate of Bohlen's down through the years. He used Bohlen's home for three months in 1948 while Bohlen was abroad. He stated that while at Moscow Bohlen did considerable drinking, but since his marriage he "gets drunk much less frequently." Offie said he would not personally send Bohlen to Moscow as "to send a man who prospered and who helped along the appeasement period is wrong." Offie has the reputation of being a homosexual. Offie was arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department on September 8, 1943, and charged with investigation, disorderly conduct-perversion. A confidential informant [redacted]

bb  
b7C  
Division, Department of State, furnished the following information, which he obtained from the files of the Security Division, Department of State: [redacted] whose present whereabouts is unknown, was discharged from the Foreign Service for being a homosexual. [redacted] freely admitted his homosexual activities. [redacted] gave appointee as a reference in a War Assets Administration application for employment.

[redacted] admitted to the Department of State that he has always been a homosexual and in all of his 42 years as a homosexual has learned to separate the "queer" from the men. He can spot them very easily and has never made a mistake in this activity. He described it as part of a sixth sense. He stated Bohlen acts, walks, and talks like a homosexual. He admitted he had had no relations with Bohlen but strongly believes Bohlen to be a homosexual. [redacted] worked with Bohlen in Moscow, Russia, when both were employed in the Foreign Service.

\* 2 -

Memorandum to Mr. Ladd

Isaac Don Levine, Washington, D. C., author of the first biography published on Stalin and Lenin, advised he has discussed the Soviet Union and Communism with Bohlen. He does not recommend Bohlen's appointment to Russia as Bohlen followed the Harry Hopkins line. He said Bohlen may try to bring the American policy back to the Yalta line. He stated Bohlen is more interested in his career than his country.

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A confidential informant [redacted] advised Bohlen has no strength of character, is an opportunist, is interested in his career, and playing ball with his superiors. He said Bohlen epitomizes the soft appeasement policy followed by the United States in dealing with Russia and he feels Bohlen should not be sent to Moscow.

Arthur Bliss Lane, former Ambassador to Poland, said Bohlen always indicated to him a desire to placate the Soviet Union and satellite countries. Lane thinks that Bohlen's assignment to Moscow is a grave mistake and to put an apologist of the Soviet Union, Yalta, and the appeasement policy to the Soviet Union in the position of Ambassador to Moscow is wrong.

[redacted] Special Agent, Office of Security, Department of State, was interviewed by Bureau Agents and he said he is not personally acquainted with Bohlen and never testified before any Senate Committee concerning Bohlen. The only information he has on Bohlen was obtained in connection with his job in the Security Office of the Department of State, which consisted of reading reports and cross-indexing names concerning the interviews of Department of State employees suspected of homosexuality. Watson said he knows that the Department of State has an index card on Bohlen in this regard and that Bohlen was associated with several perverts.

[redacted] volunteered considerable information in May of 1950 regarding Bohlen. Very briefly, he said Bohlen is a "Harvardian" and came to the Department of State at the same time that many of the Harvard group sponsored by Felix Frankfurter moved into the Department of State along with Alger and Donald Hiss.

[redacted] said at each of the important conferences between former President Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin and later conferences held with former President Truman, Bohlen and Hiss were generally photographed on each side of the

Memorandum to Mr. Ladd

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President. He said Bohlen participated in Soviet appeasement due to the considerable influence he wielded. Of necessity, Bohlen had to participate in the formulation of policy. [redacted] said if any inquiry is ever made certain individuals whose names he furnished should be interviewed. These individuals have been interviewed in the current investigation. [redacted] interviewed in the current investigation and he said he has no proof of any disloyalty on Bohlen's part and admitted his information is meager, but it convinced him Bohlen's activities should be watched.

FOLLOWING INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED IN SUMMARY MEMORANDUM:

Donald Surine, Assistant Counsel in the office of Senator Joseph McCarthy, advised he did not recall [redacted] having made any statement regarding Bohlen in his testimony before the Senate Committee. He did state that [redacted] told him personally that the Department of State security files contained several allegations to the effect that Bohlen is a homosexual.

The files of the Security Division, Department of State, reflect it had been reported that Drew Pearson has stated that Bohlen is a homosexual.

Drew Pearson was interviewed by Bureau Agents and he said he and appointee have lived in the same neighborhood for approximately ten years but they have never been close friends nor have they visited in each others homes. He denied ever stating that Bohlen was a homosexual. Pearson said he never made any suggestions along this line. Pearson said he personally has never had any suspicions of Bohlen and doesn't know where the rumor could have originated. Pearson advised that he had heard that during Bohlen's youth he had "a few drinks at the Stork Club on one occasion." On this occasion Bohlen and his partner would each get at one end of the dance floor and meet in the middle and as a result of this Mr. Billingsley, owner of the Stork Club, had Bohlen ejected. By memorandum dated March 11, 1953, it was recommended that Billingsley be interviewed. However, the notation was made on the memorandum not to interview Billingsley and the Director concurred in this recommendation. As the information furnished by Pearson has not been substantiated, it is not being included in the summary memorandum.

Information furnished by [redacted] has





United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO  
FILE NO.

March 16, 1953

CHARLES EUSTIS BOHLEN -

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

A. BIRTH

The records of the Registrar, Harvard College, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, reflect that Bohlen was born on August 30, 1904, at Clayton, New York. His birth date could not be verified in the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Albany, New York.

B. EDUCATION

Bohlen attended St. Paul's Preparatory School, Concord, New Hampshire, from September 1917, to June 1923. He attended Harvard College, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, from June 1923, to June 1927. He majored in history and received an A.B. degree.

C. EMPLOYMENT

Bohlen applied for a position with the Foreign Service of the United States Department of State on October 15, 1928. He was unemployed at the time of his application and no previous employments were reflected between the time of his graduation from Harvard College in June 1927 to the date of his application.

Appointee entered on duty with the Department of State as an unclassified Foreign Service Officer on March 26, 1929, at Washington, D. C. On May 1, 1929, appointee was promoted to the position of Vice Consul. He was assigned to Prague on July 10, 1929. Appointee was transferred to Paris, France, for language study on July 31, 1931.

Bohlen was transferred to the Embassy at Moscow, Russia, as Vice Consul on February 10, 1934. He was confirmed a diplomat on March 6, 1934. On May 24, 1934, Bohlen was designated Third Secretary at the Embassy in Moscow.

He was promoted to a Class 8 Foreign Service

77-56416-99

ENCLOSURE

Memorandum to Mr. Ladd

been reported as coming from a confidential informant in the attached summary memorandum. The following information furnished by her is not being included in the summary memorandum as it is a conclusion of hers not based on fact. She said she had a definite belief that Bohlen has strong homosexual tendencies. She related she has done considerable reading in abnormal psychology in the course of her life, and she has met many homosexuals and claims she is able, with some degree of certainty, to discern homosexual tendencies in individuals.

W. Edell Smith, Under Secretary of State furnished favorable information regarding Bohlen. Smith said he is well aware of the allegations made against Bohlen concerning his homosexual activities. Smith said he has not reviewed all of the material in question but is sure the Bureau has obtained it from the various sources available. He advised that such information, of course, would have to be taken into consideration and evaluated and that the only part he desired to be made a matter of record is the fact that he, of his independent knowledge, had no information concerning Bohlen's alleged homosexual activities. Included in the attached summary was Smith's name with those persons who furnished no derogatory information.

H. Freeman Matthews, Deputy Under Secretary of State, recommends Bohlen and information included in attached summary that Matthews was one of persons who furnished no derogatory information. Matthews furnished the following for the Bureau's information only with the request that no dissemination be made. He said he is familiar with the rumors existing to the effect that Bohlen is a homosexual. Matthews feels that these rumors emanate from William Bullitt, former Ambassador to Russia. Matthews places no credence in the statements and does not believe, from his close association with Bohlen, that he is in fact a sex deviate.

FAVORABLE INFORMATION:

A number of prominent individuals were interviewed during the course of this investigation and they did not furnish any unfavorable information concerning Bohlen.

- 6 -

04038, Doc 4 pag 6

at London in 1945; attended the meeting of Foreign Secretaries at Moscow in 1945; attended the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris in 1946; designated chairman of the United States Delegation to the Tripartite Conversations on Export Controls, London, 1950; served as Assistant Chief of the Division of European Affairs; served as Chief of the Division of Eastern European Affairs; special assistant to the Secretary of State and Counselor of the Department of State.

A memorandum in his personnel file under date of May 4, 1948, reflected in part "He has established himself as the leading diplomatic expert of the Department in all matters concerning the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union."

## II. RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION:

Carmel Offie, Washington Representative, Free Trade Union Council, American Federation of Labor, in care of 1625 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., advised that he met the appointee in July 1934, at the Embassy in Moscow. He advised that Bohlen was in the Embassy for about one year. Offie related that he has been a close associate of the appointee down through the years. He related that they were never stationed any other place together but that he saw him frequently in other places, such as Paris, Berlin, Rome, Algiers and Washington. He pointed out that he is very well acquainted with the appointee.

Offie advised that he returned to Washington during the winter of 1948-49 and that he needed a place to stay. He advised that the appointee and his wife were going abroad for a short period and that the appointee asked him to stay at his home at 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., during this period. He advised that the appointee left his two children in the home and that the children were primarily under the care of servants. He stated that he had the use of the appointee's home during October, November and December of 1948.

Offie advised the appointee is "an extremely intelligent and attractive fellow." He stated that during the period around 1934 while at Moscow, the appointee did considerable drinking. He advised that since his marriage he "gets drunk much less frequently." Continuing, Offie stated that he definitely disagrees with the appointee's thinking concerning the Soviet Union, stating that in his opinion "Bohlen followed the Harry Hopkins line." He

Officer effective February 1, 1935. He was transferred to Washington, D. C., on August 26, 1935. On June 1, 1937, he was again promoted to the position of Class 7 Foreign Service Officer.

Bohlen was again assigned to Moscow as Second Secretary on July 4, 1937. He was appointed Consul at Moscow on April 21, 1938, and received another promotion to the position of Class 6 Foreign Service Officer on March 1, 1939.

Bohlen was transferred to Washington, D. C., effective July 8, 1940. He was sent to Tokyo, Japan, as Second Secretary, November 20, 1940. He was promoted to the position of Class 5 Foreign Service Officer, May 1, 1941. It is noted that the appointee was in Tokyo at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor and he was interned.

Bohlen returned to Washington, D. C., under repatriation, effective June 3, 1942. He was promoted to the position of Class 4 Foreign Service Officer June 16, 1943.

Appointee was transferred to Moscow as First Secretary, November 3, 1943. On January 12, 1944, appointee was transferred to Washington, D. C. He was promoted to Class 2 Foreign Service Officer May 16, 1945, and to Class 1 Foreign Service Officer May 15, 1947.

On June 19, 1948, appointee was appointed Career Minister. He was assigned as Minister to Paris on June 17, 1949.

Effective March 12, 1951, Bohlen was transferred to Washington, D. C., as Counselor of the Department of State.

Bohlen had the following special assignments: Secretary to the American delegation to the International Sugar Conference at London, England, 1937; Secretary of the American delegation to the Brussels Conference in 1937; accompanied Secretary of State to the Moscow Conference of 1943; attended the Teheran Conference, 1943; acted as area adviser for the United States group at the Dumbarton Oaks Conversations in 1944; accompanied former President Roosevelt to the Crimea Conference of 1945, (Yalta); acted as political and liaison officer of the United States delegation at the San Francisco Conference in 1945; acted as assistant to the United States member of the Council of Foreign Ministers

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During the course of a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., were examined concerning Offie. These records reflected Offie had been arrested on September 8, 1943, at 12:15 a.m., in the 800 block of Vermont Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C., and charged with "disorderly conduct - investigation - pervert." This record also disclosed that Offie had been arrested by [redacted] of the Sex Squad of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., since he had approached [redacted] and attempted to induce him to engage in a homosexual act. As a result of this arrest, Offie was permitted to post twenty-five dollars collateral which he forfeited.

During the course of another investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the files of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, were checked and they contained information that Carmel Offie had listed Charles E. Bohlen as a character reference.

A representative of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations advised that the files of his Governmental agency disclosed that [redacted] whose present whereabouts is unknown, had given the appointee as a reference on his Application For Federal Employment in connection with his employment by the War Assets Administration.

This representative of another Governmental agency stated [redacted] was discharged from the Foreign Service, Department of State, for being a homosexual. He said that [redacted] freely admitted his homosexual activity. He also advised that the files reflect that [redacted]

[redacted] He said that [redacted] had served in Moscow, Russia, with the appointee in 1934.

The representative of another Government agency advised [redacted] said he is forty-two years of age and [redacted] stated that he has always been a homosexual.

stated that also the appointee as late as last year at a party in Paris, defended the Yalta agreements. He advised that personally he cannot understand the appointee's attitude of appeasement. He advised that personally he would not send the appointee to Moscow as that is the last place he would send him. He stated that "to send a man who prospered and who helped along the appeasement period is wrong."

Offie advised that he considers the appointee loyal to the United States and that in his opinion the appointee is of good character and associates.

During the course of a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1949, a representative of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, advised that a confidential informant of his whom he described as of extremely high reliability who had met Carmel Offie, furnished him the following information:

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Offie was a Class 4 Foreign Service Officer in Germany. He is single, not effeminate. He visited [redacted] an admitted homosexual, on several occasions when in Washington. One night on leaving [redacted] home in a cab, Offie propositioned the informant and told the informant that he would like to go to bed with him. The informant said, "I don't understand what you mean," and Offie said, "Oh, yes you do, I'd like to sleep with you." [redacted] later told the informant that "Offie is as queer as a three dollar bill." The informant advised that among his close friends Offie is "gay" at the parties and on the occasions that he had seen him. The informant advised that Offie is known among the Washington higher homosexuals as "one of us."

At this time the representative of another Governmental agency advised that another of his confidential informants who had admitted to him that he was a homosexual, had told him that he had also heard that Carmel Offie is a homosexual. This informant had never had any relations with Offie but he stated that Offie has the reputation of being a homosexual and is well known. The informant said [redacted] who had admitted to him that he is a homosexual and who subsequently resigned from the Department of State because of this, told him that Offie is a very good friend of his and that Offie is certainly a homosexual. [redacted] had denied any relations with Offie because "We are not sexually attracted to each other" but that Offie is nevertheless a homosexual, and is known among quite a few of [redacted] friends as a homosexual.

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related that in all of his forty-two years as a homosexual, he has learned to separate the "queer" from the men. [redacted] said he can "spot" them very easily and has never made a mistake in this activity. [redacted] described it as part of a sixth sense.

[redacted] also said that Bohlen walks, acts and talks like a homosexual. [redacted] admitted that he has had no relations with Bohlen, but strongly believes Bohlen to be a homosexual. [redacted] also stated he worked with Bohlen in Moscow, Russia, when both were employed in the Foreign Service.

[redacted], Special Agent, Office of Security, Department of State, Washington, D. C., advised he is not presently acquainted with appointee. [redacted] said he has never testified before any Senate Committee concerning Bohlen.

[redacted] stated that the only information he has concerning Bohlen was obtained in connection with his job in the Security Office of the Department of State which consists of reading reports and cross indexing names concerning the interviews of Department of State employees suspected of homosexuality. [redacted] advised that he knows that the Department of State has an index card on Bohlen in this regard and that Bohlen was associated with sexual perverts.

Information contained in the Office of Security, Department of State, has been reviewed and the results set out in this memorandum.

The representative of another Governmental agency, described above, advised that during the course of a previous investigation conducted by the agency by which he is employed concerning [redacted]

[redacted] During the previous investigation conducted by the above-mentioned Governmental agency, [redacted] was interviewed and he advised representatives of the above Governmental agency that [redacted]

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[redacted] at the home of the appointee at 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., and that he had seen [redacted] there several times socially. The appointee was interviewed by representatives of the above-mentioned Governmental agency concerning [redacted] and the appointee advised he had met [redacted] and [redacted] had frequently been a guest in his home, primarily for discussion of [redacted]

The above-mentioned representative of another Governmental agency also furnished the following information:

He said that in 1947, [redacted] executed an Application For Federal Employment and gave the appointee as a reference.

He said that on January 24, 1947, when applying for a position with [redacted] listed his address as 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. This is the residence of appointee.

He stated that the appointee has resided at this same address since 1942, except when on foreign assignment.

He said that [redacted] was interviewed on June 25, 1948, by representatives of the agency by which he was employed [redacted] denied being a homosexual. [redacted] admitted associations [redacted]

[redacted] admitted these individuals are internationally known homosexuals but claimed his association was professional in nature. [redacted] also admitted a lifetime association with a great number of homosexuals "some because of their artistic interests and the fact that he has no antipathy toward homosexuals." [redacted] said he "finds some of them to be most charming people whose friendship he does not care to lose." [redacted] denied having sexual relations [redacted]

[redacted] He denied knowing [redacted] was a homosexual.

This representative of another Governmental agency said that representatives of his agency interviewed [redacted]

At the time of the interview, [redacted] admitted homosexual activities of every type known and stated that he would engage in any type of homosexual activity. He admitted engaging in homosexual activity while [redacted]

his closest American friend in the United States, one who fully understands the evil nature of the Soviet regime and as the best possible choice for United States Ambassador to Russia.

the appointee is completely loyal to the United States, is of exceptional intelligence, is a family man, and of excellent moral character.

stated he last saw the appointee in Washington, D. C., about three weeks ago and wrote to him from

The November 9, 1947, issue of the Sunday "Star," Washington, D. C., contains an article by Richard L. Stokes concerning the appointee which is entitled "A Technician Among The Diplomats." The article reflects that the Bohlen family in America is related to the Krupp von Bohlen Dynasty of Armament Makers in the Ruhr. The article reflects that while Bohlen was Second Secretary in Moscow, Russia, in 1937, he shared a room with a young Vice Consul, Charles W. Thayer of Philadelphia. This article reflects Bohlen married Thayer's sister.

By letter dated March 6, 1953, the Under Secretary for Administration, Department of State, Washington, D. C., advised Charles W. Thayer who was located at the American Consul General, Munich, Germany, that ".... it has been concluded that proceedings should be instituted to separate you from the Foreign Service on charges of misconduct pertaining to morality. I believe you are fully aware of the information that has been found in the Department's investigations...."

The representative of another Governmental agency previously mentioned in this memorandum, advised he interviewed Charles W. Thayer in April of 1951, concerning the information furnished by previously set out in this memorandum. He also interviewed him concerning other matters. He related that Thayer categorically denied being a homosexual.

This representative of another Governmental agency advised that the files of his agency contain an admission on

but denied relations with either of them. stated he had heard from other homosexuals that was a homosexual. with only homosexuals in attendance.

He advised that he had been unable to hear their conversations and said that he did not know whether or not Thayer was a homosexual.

described appointee as being of unquestionable character, reputation, associates, and morality. She said in the fields of music and letters they had become acquainted with some people whom she believed to be homosexuals. She declined to identify such people and stated that to her knowledge, none of these persons were friends or acquaintances of the Bohlens.

was interviewed by a representative of this Bureau in Paris, France, at which time he furnished the following information:

He said he originally met appointee at a luncheon party in Washington, D. C., in about 1943. He denied ever living in the appointee's home but said that during 1944-1945 and again during 1947 and 1949, he frequently stayed overnight in the appointee's home in Washington, D. C. He also stayed overnight in the appointee's home in Paris on several occasions in 1950. He described the appointee as

the part of Thayer to engaging in one act of homosexuality while on a foreign assignment. This representative declined to name the other party involved or reveal when or where this act took place. This representative said that in addition to the above information, the files of his agency reflect that Thayer admitted

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Charles W. Thayer, when employed as Chief of the International Broadcasting Division, United States Department of State, New York City, was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1949, under the provisions of Executive Order 9835, the President's Loyalty Program. Copies of the results of this investigation were furnished to the United States Civil Service Commission, and by letter dated February 14, 1950, the Chairman, Loyalty Review Board, United States Civil Service Commission, advised Thayer was "Eligible on loyalty."

A confidential informant of unknown reliability who formerly worked in the same suite of offices as the appointee during 1951 when he was in Washington, D. C., on a special assignment, furnished the following information:

The informant was never comfortable in the same room with the appointee and was uncomfortable when she heard the appointee talk. She related there is a definite shading in his conversation and in his manner of speech which indicates effeminacy. She said the appointee had a habit of running his tongue over his lip in the manner utilized by a woman. On at least three or four occasions during the short period of time he was in Washington, D. C., he called a Mr. Thayer, his brother-in-law, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She said Bohlen used to visit his brother-in-law over the week end during this period.

She advised she overheard conversations between Bohlen and Thayer and the conversations definitely were not of a business nature but were purely personal. She stated the appointee's tone of conversation in speaking to Thayer was definitely not the normal tone used in conversations with others. She said Bohlen's tone of voice was decidedly different, sounded effeminate, and was "quite girlish." She stated the only time Bohlen did not sound effeminate was when he spoke in the French language.

This informant said the appointee is considered to be quite a brilliant person in the Department of State and he impressed her strongly with his intense loyalty to the United States.

This informant said that notwithstanding the information she had furnished, she would unhesitatingly recommend Bohlen for the position of Ambassador to Russia.

William C. Bullitt, Washington, D. C., former Ambassador to Russia, advised that he met the appointee around 1934 when Bohlen was a language student in Paris. Bullitt informed that he took Bohlen to Moscow with him to work in the Embassy. He related that Bohlen was in the Embassy from one to two years and that his conduct became "intolerable." He related that Bohlen, during this period, was drinking excessively and that he personally asked for his recall to the Department of State. Bullitt said there would be no record of this in the files of the Department of State as the entire matter was handled by him on a personal basis.

Bullitt stated that the appointee's brother-in-law, Charles Thayer, was also in the Embassy in Moscow during this period and that Thayer and the appointee were very close friends. He pointed out that Bohlen subsequently married Thayer's sister, and that he personally has a very high regard for Mrs. Bohlen.

Bullitt stated that during that period of time Charles Thayer "frequently got horribly and dangerously drunk." He stated that he called Thayer in and told him if he did not stop his excessive drinking he would "kick him out of the State Department."

Bullitt said there is no question concerning the appointee's loyalty to the United States or his moral character. He advised that the appointee is extremely clever and quite a brilliant individual. He advised that personally, he has the utmost contempt for Bohlen and has told him so to his face. He related that approximately several years ago he called Bohlen a "cheap profiteer on American disaster." Bullitt stated that the above related to what he considered a lack of ethics on the part of the appointee. He advised that during the war years appointee "went along with the theme of Harry Hopkins that the Soviet Union was a peace loving democracy and that he has certainly furthered his career by so doing." He pointed out that other men in similar positions, such as [redacted] who had the backbone and ethics to refuse to go along with anything that was not for the best interests of the United States were exiled to posts such as Bagdad." He stated

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stuck for years to this line and followed it at Yalta." Levine also stated Bohlen "never played with the pro-Soviet group which was functioning at a policy level in the State Department."

Levine said that up until Stalin's death, he believed he was in favor of Bohlen's appointment to Moscow as an Ambassador but now that Stalin is dead, he strongly believes Bohlen's appointment to Moscow should definitely be held up. He advised there is a definite and real danger that Bohlen may seek to bring American policy back to the Yalta line of "adjustment" with Russia on terms which would leave Russia in possession of all the "loot" including the greater part of North Korea.

Levine stated that in his opinion Bohlen is definitely more interested in his career than in his country and for this reason combined with the above, he would recommend against Bohlen's appointment to Moscow. He said he wanted to make it clear that he would not oppose Bohlen's nomination to any other country in the world with the exception of Russia.

A confidential informant of unknown reliability, who was formerly a high-ranking officer in the United States Air Force, advised he first became acquainted with Bohlen in 1942. He never had any particularly close association or contact with Bohlen until December 1945, at which time this informant was assigned to the Joint Intelligence Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also has had social contacts with Bohlen.

This informant said that from the dealings he had with Bohlen, he is definitely of the opinion that Bohlen has "no strength of character, is an opportunist, interested in his career and playing ball with his superiors." He said the position assumed by Bohlen "as an expert adviser was in concert with other like-minded people who went along completely with the Roosevelt-Stalin united front tactics."

He said the appointee epitomizes the "soft appeasement policy followed by the United States in dealing with Russia." He advised he definitely feels that Bohlen should not be sent to Moscow.

Arthur Bliss Lane, Washington, D. C., former Ambassador to Poland, advised he first met Bohlen in 1944 and during the period between 1944 and 1945, worked very closely with Bohlen in Washington, D. C. He said Bohlen

the appointee's career on the other hand has skyrocketed.

Bullitt stated that the appointee is a "careerist" and that he is personally opposed to career men in the Foreign Service, stating as his reason, that they worry more about jeopardizing their career than they do about the United States. Bullitt advised that he feels that a Foreign Service Officer should stand for his country and the truth even if he loses his job for his action.

He advised that he has no specific information which he thinks should stand in the way of Mr. Bohlen's appointment.

Jay Lovestone, a self-acknowledged former leader of the Communist Party, both nationally and internationally, advised he is not a close personal friend of Bohlen but has met him on occasions socially and had discussions with him. He has never had any reason to question Bohlen's loyalty, morality, character or reputation; however, he does question his judgment. Lovestone said on one occasion he recalled discussing with Bohlen the trial of Alger Hiss and this discussion occurred between the first and second trials of Hiss. Lovestone does not recall Bohlen's exact comments but said Bohlen had implied that he was not impressed by the facts as brought out in the first trial of Hiss and he would await the verdict of the second trial before considering his guilt. Lovestone said in his opinion this attitude on the part of Bohlen caused him to question Bohlen's judgment. He stated he also questioned Bohlen's judgment in defending the Yalta agreement.

Isaac Don Levine, Washington, D. C., advised he was born in Russia, and came to the United States in 1911. He said he was the author of the first biography ever published on Stalin and Lenin. Levine said during 1951 and 1952, he was the European Director of the American Committee For The Liberation Of The Peoples Of Russia, Incorporated, at Munich, Germany, and in this capacity was frequently in contact with the appointee.

Levine said the occasions of his discussions with Bohlen have been to discuss the Soviet Union and Communism. Levine stated he believes Bohlen is a completely loyal American and is an honest anti-Communist, but "he swallowed the Hopkins line that Soviet Russia would be primarily interested, after the War, in domestic reconstruction and that a ten-billion-dollar loan such as Harriman proposed to give Stalin during World War II would keep the Soviet Government out of Western Europe." Levine said, "Bohlen, as far as I know,

he feels that he is the last word and final authority on dealings with the Soviets. Lane advised that he thinks that the appointee's assignment to Moscow is a grave mistake and that "to put an apologist of the Soviet Union, Yalta and the appeasement policy to the Soviet Union in the position of Ambassador to Moscow is wrong."

Lane advised that this appointment, in his opinion, would be a definite indication to the Soviet Union that we still go along with the old appeasement policy. He pointed out in this regard that Bohlen actually made this policy himself and that he was far more than merely an interpreter at Yalta, inasmuch as he had been making our policy towards the Soviet Union even before Yalta. He advised that history has already shown that the appointee was definitely in error.

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b7C [redacted] of the "New York Times" volunteered information in May 1950, in regard to Bohlen. [redacted] stated that he did not desire to allege that Bohlen was either a Communist, a Communist sympathizer or even a "left winger," but that he has always been puzzled by Bohlen's connection in the Department of State. He stated that Bohlen is a "Harvardian" and came into the Department of State at about the same time that many of the Harvard group sponsored by Felix Frankfurter moved into the Department of State and other departments, including such men as Alger and Donald Hiss. [redacted] stated that as far as he has been able to observe, Bohlen has always had an intense interest in Russia and reportedly took two trips to Russia, either immediately before becoming connected with the Department of State or shortly thereafter. He stated that Bohlen speaks Russian fluently, whereas Alger Hiss does not speak Russian, but that at each of the important conferences between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, and later with President Truman, Bohlen and Hiss were generally photographed on either side of the President, along with the Secretary of State. [redacted] stated that Bohlen acted as both adviser and interpreter for Roosevelt at Teheran, Yalta, and Cairo, and later for President Truman at Potsdam.

[redacted] stated that the worst he could accuse Bohlen of is that he participated in Soviet "appeasement" to the following extent.

[redacted] stated that Bohlen, being among the top four or five American officials at these conferences including the President, the Secretary of State, Alger Hiss, Bohlen, et al, and being the only really top level official with ability to fluently speak and understand Russian and having been in the Russian Section of the

had always indicated to him a desire to placate the Soviet Union and satellite countries. Lane said when Bohlen realized that he was opposed to this attitude, Bohlen appeared to stop confiding in him. He pointed out that at one time Bohlen had shown him all of the telegrams, et cetera, which had been sent to Poland and which concerned Poland, but that after Bohlen became aware that he was opposed to the appeasement policy that Bohlen appeared to "hold back."

Lane stated that after the Yalta Conference, he attempted to learn from Bohlen what went on at the Conference which concerned Poland. He was never told of the United States agreements and commitments as affecting Poland even though it was Bohlen's responsibility to so inform him. He advised that the same applies as affecting the Potsdam Conference.

Lane said that it is his own personal knowledge that Bohlen has been the controlling force behind our relations with the Soviet Union and the satellite countries since 1944. He described Bohlen as "the man behind the scenes."

Lane stated it never occurred to him that Bohlen, "who had been the personification of our appeasement policy, should be appointed to Moscow." He said Bohlen was personally responsible for the policy which was repudiated in the elections last November. He advised it was Bohlen who suggested to Averell Harriman in 1945 that Harry Hopkins should go to Moscow and make the concessions to the Russians, which made the holding of the Potsdam Conference possible. He said this was definitely the turning point in our relations with the Soviet Union inasmuch as once the Soviets realized that we would go to any lengths to negotiate peace they began to pursue their aggressive attitude toward the United States.

Lane stated that in 1946, while he was Ambassador to Poland, Bohlen was the force behind a ninety-million-dollar loan to Poland. He stated that it is inconceivable to him that an individual could recommend the economic build-up of a Communist enemy of the United States. He advised he attributes this action to a definite error in judgment. Lane stated that the appointee is not an associate of pro-Communists and that he does not feel that Bohlen is a pro-Communist. He stated his real fault in character is that he thinks he knows more about the Soviets and Communism than anyone else in the United States. He related that Bohlen is so conceited that



A. INTERVIEWS WITH BUSINESS ASSOCIATES  
AND SOCIAL ACQUAINTANCES

The following persons were interviewed concerning appointee's character, reputation, associates, loyalty and ability. None of these persons had any unfavorable comments to make concerning him.

Walworth Barbour, Director, Office of Eastern European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Alexander Barmine, Chief of the Russian Branch, International Broadcasting Division, Department of State, New York City.

James Bondbright, Deputy Assistant Director, Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Omar Bradley, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

David Bruce, former Ambassador to France, New York City.

Governor James F. Byrnes, Columbia, South Carolina.

General Robert C. Cutler, Administrative Assistant to the President.

Richard H. Davis, Officer in Charge of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

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Department of State ever since he began to work there, wielded considerable influence, possibly even more than Alger Hiss, but at least second only to Hiss' influence. [redacted] added that Bohlen, of necessity, was aware of, and had to participate in the formulation of policy, the making of quick decisions and concessions at the various conferences. He added that American policy at Teheran "sealed the doom of Poland by the Stettin-Trieste line, and also agreed to Russian occupation of the Baltic States." [redacted] stated that at Yalta, American policy "agreed to the Russian occupation of Manchuria and the Kurile Islands, and was the beginning of the end insofar as China is concerned," and that "all of these agreements were in direct violation of the Atlantic Charter in which we pledged that there would be no territorial violations of any of our allies."

[redacted] stated that in addition to this, he, [redacted] had been present at a reception of diplomats, military leaders, newsmen, et cetera, given by General Donald M. Connolly, Commander of the Persian Gulf Command during the war, at which numerous Russians were present. [redacted] stated that Bohlen was present at this conference and circulated freely among the Russians chatting, shaking hands, back-slapping and appearing overly friendly to the point that he appeared "obedient to them." He stated that he did not know what topics were discussed with them by Bohlen, nor was there any indication that Bohlen's conduct was in any way prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

[redacted] said that for the above reasons he has suspected Bohlen, and although he has no proof of any disloyalty on Bohlen's part, it seems peculiar that one who was so closely associated with Hiss and other "Harvardians" could escape unscathed insofar as the taint of "left wing" activity is concerned. [redacted] admitted that this information was meager, but that it at least convinced him that Bohlen's activities should be "watched."

[redacted] furnished the names of certain individuals whom he recommended be interviewed in the event an inquiry of Bohlen was ever made. These individuals have been interviewed and the results of the interviews have been set out in this memorandum.

[redacted] was interviewed in connection with the current investigation. He advised that he had nothing additional to furnish to the remarks previously furnished, except to say that it was his belief, from conversations with persons in the Department of State that an "area of mistrust" exists in the Department of State in regard to Bohlen. He added that in his opinion the appointment of Bohlen to a responsible position would be a mistake.

W. Bedell Smith, Under Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Paul Ward, a Washington correspondent for the "Baltimore Sun" who specializes in reporting foreign affairs.

Frank Wisner, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C.

Mary C. Wojnar, Secretary to the Counselor, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

B. RELATIVES AND MARITAL STATUS

Members of the appointee's immediate family are set out as follows:

Wife - Avis Howard Bohlen, nee Thayer, born [REDACTED] (date of marriage August 29, 1935).

Children - Avis Thayer Bohlen, born [REDACTED]  
Charles Eustis Bohlen, Jr., born [REDACTED]  
(associates of appointee indicate that in addition to the above two children, the appointee has one infant daughter).

Brother - Henry Bohlen, deceased.

Sister - Ellen M. Bohlen, Aiken, South Carolina.

Father - Charles Bohlen, born January 14, 1866, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mother - Celestine Bohlen, nee Eustis, born April 11, 1877, at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Grandfather - James B. Eustis, former Ambassador to France and a former United States Senator.  
(Appointee's parents and grandfather are deceased.)

The records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., contain a record of [REDACTED]

There is no record of the appointee's wife in the files of the Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the Police Department, Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, which covers

Allen W. Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C.

James E. Dunn, Ambassador, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

David Finlay, Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.

Joseph E. Grew, former Ambassador, Washington, D. C.

John Hickerson, Assistant Secretary for the United Nations, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

George F. Kennan, former Ambassador to Moscow, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Helen P. Kirkpatrick, Public Affairs Adviser, Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

James Lay, Jr., Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, Washington, D. C.

H. Freeman Matthews, Deputy Under Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Willis Matthews, Executive Officer to General Omar Bradley, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Colonel Harry McBride, former Assistant to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Washington, D. C.

Robert McBride, Officer in Charge, French-Iberian Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Michael James McDermott, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Press Relations, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General George C. Marshall, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Paul H. Nitze, Director, Policy Planning Staff, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

G. Howland Shaw, former official in the Department of State, Washington, D. C.

able information concerning the appointee.

E. AGENCY CHECKS

The files of the following Federal agencies do not contain any additional pertinent, identifiable information concerning the appointee:

Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C.

Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

House Committee On Un-American Activities,  
Washington, D. C.

Passport Division, Department of State, Washington,  
D. C.

Villanova, Pennsylvania; and the Philadelphia Credit Bureau, Incorporated, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

There is no record of Ellen M. Bohlen at the Police Department, Aiken, South Carolina, and the Sheriff's Office, Aiken County, South Carolina. The Credit Bureau of Aiken, South Carolina, reflects Ellen M. Bohlen as having a satisfactory credit rating. During this investigation, persons who commented concerning the appointee's immediate family described them as loyal Americans of good character and reputation.

G. INTERVIEWS WITH NEIGHBORS

During this investigation, neighbors of the appointee at Washington, D. C., were interviewed and they did not furnish any unfavorable information regarding his character, loyalty, reputation, and associates.

D. CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

No arrest record for the appointee was found in a check of the records of the following law enforcement agencies:

United States Park Police, Washington, D. C.

Police Department, Concord, New Hampshire.

Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Police Department, Lower Merion, Pennsylvania.

Police Department, New York City.

The files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., reflected one traffic charge against the appointee. The records of the Massachusetts State Board of Probation, Boston, Massachusetts, a central repository for all criminal records in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, reflected two traffic violations for the appointee. One of these occurred on September 13, 1922, at West Roxbury District Court, where he was fined five dollars for a "traffic violation." On November 14, 1924, he appeared in Malden District Court, Malden, Massachusetts, and was charged with "no license," and fined ten dollars.

The credit bureaus serving the localities listed above where arrest records were checked, reported no unfavor-



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 16, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR'S PERSONAL FILES

On March 24, 1953, I saw Scott McLeod, the new Security Officer at the State Department. Mr. McLeod seemed to be quite depressed as a result of the recent controversy with which he had been engaged as a result of the recent publicity in which his name had played a prominent part incident to the nomination of Mr. Bohlen as Ambassador to Moscow.

Mr. McLeod also stated that he had been on the point of resigning several times as a result of the treatment which he had received in this matter but had refrained from doing so up to the time I saw him. Mr. McLeod stated he had made an evaluation of the FBI summary on Bohlen which had been submitted to the Secretary of State at the request of the Secretary of State and had indicated that he could not conscientiously give Mr. Bohlen a security clearance. He stated that he had refrained from appearing before any committee of Congress although he had been sought to appear before several of the committees. He stated that the publicity which had appeared in the papers relating to the difficulty between the Secretary of State and himself was most embarrassing and he had been blamed for having leaked the information. He stated that General Persons at the White House had called him by phone the morning that the first story appeared and had indicated they did not appreciate at the White House his going to the press with his trouble. He stated he had endeavored to assure General Persons that he had nothing to do with furnishing any information to the press. Mr. McLeod also told me that Mr. Allen Dulles, brother of the Secretary of State, had gone to see Constantine Brown and informed Mr. Brown that he was investigating the leak to the press and asked Mr. Brown whether it had emanated from Mr. McLeod. Mr. Brown indicated to Allen Dulles that it had not. During the conversation with Mr. Brown, Allen Dulles informed Mr. Brown that the Secretary of State was opposed to the appointment of Bohlen and did not consider him the type of individual who should be named Ambassador to Russia but had gone along with the appointment because of the President's personal desire and interest. Mr. McLeod also told me that in a conversation which he had had with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State had, in substance, indicated the same thing to him about his personal views concerning Bohlen and had stated that the appointment was a personal one being made at the insistence of President Eisenhower.

JEH:mpd

J. E. H.  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director